

FLD 994

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

25X1A

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Cottbus

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 1 to 5 November 1953

25X1C
DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

25X1C
REFERENCES

2

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 5 November 1953, the Alvensleben Kaserne in Cottbus was occupied by about 250 to 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, and a few black-bordered black epaulets. Three vehicle sheds were under construction in the barracks area; they were expected to be completed within 2 weeks. Four 57-mm AT guns were seen in the barracks yard. About 15 to 20 troops cleaned signal vehicles on the day of observation.

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- 2.
3. On 5 November, the Sachsenhof Kaserne was occupied by about 1,800 to 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. Intensive training activity was observed in the barracks area. An undetermined number of troops received instruction on 5 T-34/85 tanks. The units stationed in the installation furnished about 90 troops as guard personnel for the fuel depot near the railroad station, the komendatura and the town patrols.

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4. On 5 November, the Dissenchen Kaserne was occupied by about 500 to 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. A 122-mm field howitzer, 12 x 76-mm light field guns and 2 armored vehicles were observed in the sheds. An undetermined number of troops received instruction on tanks and infantry training on one day of observation.

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5. On 28 October, 2 factory-new T-34/85 tanks were detained at the Cottbus railroad station and subsequently left for the Hermann Loens Kaserne. On 4 November, about 300 troops were entrained in 10 boxcars, which left toward Guben. The troops wore red-bordered black, black-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets.

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[redacted] Comment. The bulk of the 9th Mecz Div stationed in Cottbus is confirmed there [redacted] in November 1953. [redacted] [redacted]. As the strength estimates for the Alvensleben and the Dissenchen Kasernen do not yet correspond with the full strength of the units stationed there, it may be assumed that units are still at Weisswasser for firing practices. As the Dissenchen Kaserne and the Alvensleben Kaserne are carried occupied by the 70th Mecz Regt and the 692d How Arty Regt respectively, the information on guns and calibers observed in the Dissenchen Kaserne is forwarded with some reserve. [redacted]

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